

St. Helens Advertiser

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NO. 16

ROAD MASTER JOB BE ABOLISHED

ABOUT 1200 RESIDENTS SIGN PETITION TO HAVE ROAD ENGINEER DISMISSED.

Write That the Office Is a Useless
Expense and That County Sur-
veyor Do the Work.

If one were to judge by the size of a document that was filed Wednesday with the County Court asking that the office of County Road Engineer be abolished, they would be misled at once to say fare-you-well. The petition contains approximately twelve hundred names, and is a pretentious looking document. The subject matter of the petition is mild and moderate, and without any redundancy or ceremony gets down to business in the following language:

"To the Honorable County Court of Columbia County, Oregon:

"Whereas, at the budget meeting held at the Court House on December 29, 1914, a resolution was read asking your honorable body to discontinue the office of County Highway Engineer or Roadmaster, as the said office was not necessary and a useless expense to the taxpayers, and

"Whereas, several counties of the state of Oregon, with a much greater population and assessable wealth have dispensed with said office as being useless and an unnecessary burden upon the taxpayers, among them being, so we are informed, Washington, Clatsop and Clackamas counties,

"Therefore, we the undersigned resident citizens and taxpayers of Columbia county most respectfully request and pray that the office of County Road Master or Highway Engineer of Columbia county be abolished and the work of said Highway Engineer be turned over to the duly elected, qualified and competent County Surveyor, and we, your petitioners will ever pray."

The petitions were circulated and signed by citizens and taxpayers of practically every part of the county except St. Helens. There are but two signatures of St. Helens residents, and it is probable they were approached while in some other part of the county. The greatest number of signatures were secured at Clatskanie, Rainier and Scappoose, but there are a great number of names secured from all over the county. The following addresses are given of the signers:

Clatskanie, Quincy, Inglis, Vernonia, Goble, Deer Island, Columbia, Ty, Prescott, Rainier, Aptary, Mist, Warmland, Houlton, Scappoose, Yankton, Warren.

The petitions were initiated by the Columbia County Taxpayers League, and as stated in the body of the petition, the object in view is the abolition of the office on the grounds that it is a useless expense. It is stated that ninety per cent of the resident taxpayers of the county signed the petitions.

Just what the attitude of the County Court will be in regard to the matter cannot be forecasted at this time, but it is quite certain that the County Judge will oppose the granting of the petition on the grounds that it is a backward movement. The commissioners, or one of them, at least, will have the deciding voice in the matter, which will no doubt, be finally settled at the present session of court.

SK FOR BOOMAGE RIGHTS IN SLOUGH

War Department Acts on Application
of Kerry Lumber Company.

Utilizing a part of Westport slough, in front of the terminal of the Columbia & Nehalem Railroad, for booming logs, is planned by the Kerry Lumber Company, and an application requesting permission for the boom has been made to the War Department. Colonel McKinstry, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., has in received information from Washington on the matter and he will conduct an inquiry.

As a means of facilitating the matter, Colonel McKinstry has requested that all persons interested convey to him their opinions as to whether the establishment of a boom there would be an interference with navigation. A chart of the slough, showing the proposed boom location and other details, is on file at the office of the engineers.

The Kerry Lumber Co. is installing a railroad to the Nehalem valley, its Columbia river terminus being just below Marshfield.

PROMINENT PASTOR RESIGNS FROM WORK

Mr. Meyers of the Congregational
Church, to Take Up New Work.

Rev. Mr. Meyers, who has served so commendably and efficiently as pastor of the Congregational church in this city for some time, tendered his resignation at the quarterly business meeting of the church last Wednesday evening. Mr. Meyers has two offers in view, one at Tacoma and one at Portland, but is yet undecided which he will accept. His work here has been of a most beneficial nature, and a large circle of friends in and out of the church will regret to see himself and estimable wife leave the work here.

NEW CITY OFFICERS ARE CHOSEN

MONDAY'S ELECTION RESULTS IN CHOICE OF REGULAR NOMINEES.

Next Monday Evening Will Be Time
for Inauguration of the Mayor
and Councilmen.

The city election held in St. Helens last Monday did not call out a very large vote, many allowing the matter to go by default. The total vote cast did not reach 200, and no contests were anywhere in sight. It did develop, however, that in West St. Hel-



MAYOR S. C. MORTON.

There were a few votes cast in opposition to one of the candidates for councilman, but the result was not materially changed. S. C. Morton, for mayor, received 166 votes, Southard and Ballagh, for councilmen, received 175 and 171 votes, respectively. H. P. Watkins, for treasurer, 171 votes. L. E. Allen, water commissioner, 173 votes. It is rarely the case that there is much interest in an election where there is no contest on, and the recent election was no exception to the rule. Each of the men chosen are good business men and will give the city a good administration.

MIDGETS SELL JUNK FOR EXPENSE FUND

Junior Ball Players Will Meet on the
Local Diamond Next Sunday.

Members of Noah's Ark junior ball team will meet the Deer Island team on the St. Helens grounds next Sunday in a return game. The youngsters have been gathering up a lot of miscellaneous articles around town which they have shipped to Portland and sold for the purpose of raising funds to defray some of their personal expenses. The boys will appear next Sunday in brand new uniforms, furnished by their manager, Jack Fabor. They are also otherwise in good trim and will work hard to best their adversaries.

HOME DESTROYED BY EARLY MORNING FIRE

Entire Loss of House and Contents.
Small Insurance.

At 4 o'clock Thursday morning fire destroyed the residence of Ed Olstrom, in Railroad addition. The family was away from home at the time, excepting Mr. Olstrom, who states that the evening before he had lighted fire for the purpose of cooking supper, but the fire went down early in the evening. A few of the household articles were saved, but the house and contents were practically a total loss. There was only a small amount of insurance.

COLUMBIA GETS BIG AMOUNT FROM STATE

HIGHWAY FUND APPROPRIATION IS BESTOWED IN SUM OF \$50,000.

Gives a Total of \$80,000 Available
for Highway Work for the
Present Year.

Columbia county is one of the seven counties in the state receiving aid for highway work from the state fund, and one of three to receive \$50,000 each. This apportionment was made by the State Highway Commission at a meeting held at Salem Tuesday, when \$237,231 of state funds were apportioned.

A delegation from Columbia county attended the meeting and strongly presented the case of the county. Judge Clark has been persistent in his efforts to get state aid. He with others attended the meeting, and naturally feels that something has been accomplished.

The largest amounts set aside by the commission go to Columbia, Hood River and Jackson counties, each receiving \$50,000, while Clatsop county gets but \$35,000. It was the desire of the commission to assist the counties most which had bonded for road improvement, and with this idea in view made the following apportionment:

Columbia county, \$50,000; Hood River county, \$50,000; Jackson county, \$50,000; Clatsop county, \$35,000; Douglas county, \$20,000; Josephine county, \$5,000; Rex-Tigardville road, \$7,231; miscellaneous, \$20,000. Of the \$50,000 awarded to Jackson county, \$10,000 was due from last year, the remainder being provided for by the recent legislature. The commission also set aside \$20,000 for office expenses.

The meeting was attended by S. Benson and J. H. Albert, two of the members of the recently appointed advisory board. State Highway Engineer Cantine will be advised with by the board on all highway matters.

County Judge Clark and J. H. Johnson, representing the Consolidated Contract Company, requested the board to have the engineer make estimates of the work done by the company in this county so that the County Court could make certain payments. Under the law the payments cannot be made until the estimates are furnished. State Treasurer Kay called attention to the fact that H. L. Bowlby, ex-State Highway Engineer, had made the estimates, but had not furnished a copy to the County Judge. Mr. Cantine was instructed to do this.

Mr. Johnson stated that the estimates of Major Bowlby were not satisfactory to the company and would not be accepted. He declared that under them the company would lose about \$60,000, and that, if satisfactory arrangements could not be made litigation would result.

GOBLE LADIES RAISE MONEY FOR SCHOOL

Supper, Entertainment and Dance
Yields Funds for School.

Goble has a "got-together club," composed of ladies, which is doing a good work in the community. Their sphere of work for the betterment of civic and general public matters has extended over a long period of time and covered a broad range of public good. Their latest work for the good of the public was an entertainment, supper and dance given last Saturday evening to raise funds for assisting in the improvement of the public school grounds and the construction of a play shed. In their work the ladies have been eminently successful and their efforts are duly appreciated, a fact attested to by the liberal support and patronage which is accorded them on all occasions.

THREE SCHOOLS ARE TO STANDARDIZE

Growing Sentiment in Favor of
Standardization Is Noticeable.

Three more schools in Columbia county have standardized during the past few days, or have made the request to the superintendent to grant that designation to them. Mist, Warren and Yankton are three of the progressive schools in the county, and their standardizing fully completes their schedule of efficiency.

NEXT MONDAY IS DAY TO CLEAN UP CITY

City Makes the Order and Health
Officer Will Have It Enforced.

Next Monday has been designated as "clean-up" day in St. Helens, and its general observance is very much desired. The health officer has expressed the desire that all good citizens do their part in the matter and the rest will be easy. The city will defray the expense of removal of all undesirable material from the premises if it is deposited in proper receptacles so that it will be easily handled. The strictest observance of the order is not only commendable but necessary, and the order should be rigidly enforced.

ST. HELENS-NEW YORK STEAMER

LARGE CARRIER TAKES FIRST LUMBER FROM ST. HELENS TO ATLANTIC SEABOARD.

Shipments From Here Will Be Made
Frequently—Another Vessel Due
Tomorrow to Load for East.

More than ordinary significance is attached to the fact that the first lumber to go to the Atlantic seaboard from St. Helens was dispatched by the steamer Alvarado, which cleared from the local harbor Thursday evening, carrying one million four hundred thousand feet. This was a full cargo for the vessel, and we believe it to be the first entire cargo of lumber to be shipped from the Columbia river to the east coast of the United States. There has been some lumber shipped from Portland to the Atlantic coast, but it was included in mixed cargoes of regular liners.

The cargo of the Alvarado goes to the New York yards of the C. R. McCormick Lumber Company, which were established only a short time ago, and is only the beginning of a large business in that line which will be conducted by that company. They will handle several million feet each year through their New York connection, and all the lumber will be produced at the St. Helens plants.

The Alvarado will return here in about eighty days for another cargo. The Steamer St. Helens is due here tomorrow for a full load of lumber for New York. Most of the cargo will be supplied here, and she will finish loading at some down-river point.

ASSESSORS ARE WORK- ING AHEAD OF TIME

Good headway is being made this year with the work of ascertaining property values by the county assessors. Mr. Blakesley informed us that the work so far this year is about one week ahead previous years. One deputy is doing the work in the north end of the county and the other is looking after values in the south end. Mr. Blakesley is keeping up the office work.

MARSHAL CHITTIM TO DRIVE A FORD CAR

Making Good Progress in Gathering
Property Values.

St. Helens has a rather fastidious city marshal and his notions about doing things in haste have prompted him to annex unto himself a Ford car. This adjunct was tried out on Thursday to the complete satisfaction of the officer, and as far as we have been able to ascertain, to the safety of all the citizens.

POSTMASTER BUYS MERCHANDISE STORE

Herbert Wharton has purchased the mercantile business of E. McVey, at Columbia City. Mr. Wharton has been appointed postmaster at that place, and will conduct the postoffice in connection with the mercantile establishment, as his predecessor has done.

NEW RESIDENCE WILL GO UP AT ONCE

F. A. George Will Build Modern
Home on His Present Site.

Next week Frank George will begin the wrecking of his present residence preparatory to the construction of a modern home. The new building will be one and one-half story high and modern in every respect. Work on the new structure will start as soon as the site can be made ready.

FIREMEN APPEAL FOR BETTER APPARATUS

URGENT NEED OF BETTER AP- PARATUS IS POINTED OUT BY THE FIRE CHIEF.

Exhaustion of Fighters and Unreason-
able and Unnecessary Delay in
Reaching Fires Causes Loss.

The members of the St. Helens volunteer fire department seem to have a very justifiable complaint to make regarding the nature of the apparatus they have at hand. The chief of the department, in a communication herewith appended, points out in a very forcible manner the many difficulties the members of the department have to contend with. Proper equipment, with the willingness of the firemen, would save a great deal of time and property. Following is Mr. Allen's communication:

To the Citizens:

I would like for every taxpayer in this city to give serious consideration to the matter of whether or not there should be better equipment provided for getting the fire fighting apparatus out to fires. I think that at an expense not exceeding \$600 there could be provided an auto truck that would greatly facilitate fire fighting and save a great amount of exhaustion and nervous energy on the part of the firemen. On Wednesday morning at about 4 o'clock when an alarm of fire was sounded some of the members of the department residing in Railroad Addition, within three blocks of the scene of the fire, were compelled to run for the entire distance into the city in order to assist in taking the apparatus to the scene of the fire. This entailed not only a great deal of unnecessary delay but also a great amount of unnecessary physical effort, lessened the usefulness of the firemen and resulted in the loss of a great deal of property through unreasonable delay. With proper equipment at hand instead of the firemen exhausting themselves in hauling the apparatus they would be enabled to go direct to the scene of the fire and do a great deal of valuable work before the apparatus arrived. An auto truck could be operated by one or two members. I feel that none of us is complaining about the work we have to do and the loss of clothing which invariably results from attendance at a fire, but we must be in shape when we reach the fire to do our work properly. We are ready at all times to do our full duty, as is attested by our former acts. I think it is the duty of the citizens of the city to present our case to the mayor and councilmen with the request that we be provided with better means of doing our work properly.

Yours faithfully,
L. E. ALLEN, Chief.

WILL CO-OPERATE WITH COUNTIES

NEW HIGHWAY ENGINEER SAYS COUNTY COURTS WILL BE CONSULTED IN WORK.

Major Bowlby Declines to Complete
the Work He Had in Hand. New
Engineer Handicapped.

E. I. Cantine, the newly appointed State Highway Engineer, says he will work in connection with the various County Courts in road construction, and will follow their advice when possible to avoid such disputes as those arising under the administration of his predecessor.

Mr. Cantine said that he believed by close co-operation with the County Courts friction could be reduced to a minimum and road-building accelerated. Major Bowlby having declined an offer of the board to complete the work in Hood River county and make settlements for work started by him in Jackson, Columbia and Clatsop counties, State Treasurer Kay suggested that O. Laugaard, project engineer of the Tumalo irrigation section, which has been completed, be employed. Governor Withycombe said the suggestion was a good one, and Mr. Laugaard undoubtedly will be offered the place.

Major Bowlby declined to do the work on the ground that it was the function of the State Highway Engineer. The board, however, desired to retain him at the salary he was receiving as consulting engineer to attend to the details of the settlements.

Easter Sunday Program.

Under the direction of Mrs. Burkhead and Mrs. Berdahl the Union Sunday School at Bachelor Flat rendered an interesting program on Easter Sunday in the afternoon. The Sunday School room was appropriately decorated for the occasion and a large crowd was in attendance.

IMPROVED AUTO SERV- ICE IS INAUGURATED

Two Round Trips Between St. Helens
and Portland to Be Made Daily.

Captain Orin Able, who, for some time, has operated an auto bus passenger line between St. Helens and Portland, has inaugurated a greatly improved service. There will be two round trips made each day between here and the city, and on Saturday and Sunday there will be three round trips made. Captain Able's auto line has always been real popular with the traveling public and the improvement which he has just made in the service will add to the popularity of the line. Time cards are now available and the management will be glad to inform the public of the new schedule.

PUBLIC IS TO BE ENTERTAINED

ELABORATE OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT TO BE SUPPLIED BY LADIES ON TAG DAY.

Court House Plaza Will Be Center of
Attraction for Large Crowd to
Help the Kiddies.

An outdoor entertainment will be had in St. Helens Saturday evening, April 17, at the court house plaza, when a splendid musical program will be rendered. This date is the last day for the sale of tags for the purpose of raising funds for erecting a building at the fair grounds, and the ladies of the city have arranged to give the citizens an evening of genuine entertainment. There will be a number of selections by the band and a chorus of all the church choirs of the city will render patriotic songs, besides speeches and other entertaining features. An especial effort will be made to abundantly entertain the public, which is cordially invited to enjoy the program.

CHARLES WHITE LOSES HAND UNDER CAR

Brother of Martin White of This City,
Meets With Serious Accident.

Martin White was called to Oregon City Tuesday evening by his brother Charles, who had the misfortune to have his left hand severed from the wrist Monday evening as he was alighting from a street car at Park Place station, about two miles this side of Oregon City. Mr. White resides at Clackamas Heights, and had been to Oregon City on business. He was detained until after dark. When he alighted from the car at Park Place his overcoat was caught in some manner by some part of the car and Mr. White was dragged to the ground. In falling he thrust his left hand outward, striking the rail just in front of the rear wheel. Practically the entire hand was severed. Mr. White bound the injured member and walked to his home, a distance of about two miles, before he received any aid.

CHANGE IN SCAPPOOSE ROAD IS ASKED FOR

Establishment of Highway Down the
West Side of Railroad Sought.

Several residents in the vicinity of Scappoose were before the County Court yesterday with a request that the survey made by the State Highway Engineer for a road down the west side of the railroad track from Scappoose to the Cloninger crossing, be accepted and ordered opened. We understand that the request was not granted at this time on the grounds that funds were not available for the purpose.

CONCEALED CAR NUM- BER CAUSE OF TROUBLE

The chief of police of Portland had one of his alert patrolmen investigate the reason for a concealed license number on a visiting Ford car in that city a short time ago, and in making the investigation it was proven that the occupants of the car were from St. Helens. A party of two ladies and gentlemen had driven to the city to spend the day. To all appearances their car bore no license number. However, it was proven that the tag was on the car, by the gentleman, who proved to be Jack DeSpain and M. F. Hazen. The ladies of the party were their wives.